

PHOSPHORESCENT SUNROOF

ABSTRACT

[0030] A phosphorescent sunroof for transmitting light into a vehicle includes a roof assembly comprising a roof having an opening, and a panel adapted to fit the dimensions of the opening. The panel is made of a light-transparent component that transmits light from an external source into the vehicle. The panel includes a phosphorescent material that is excited or made to glow by the external light source without the use of vehicle power. The panel glows for a period of time following exposure to the external light source to allow visibility inside the vehicle and provide aesthetic qualities. Further, the phosphorescent material scatters or diffuses incident light transmitted through the panel, thereby reducing the direct radiation of light and heat load into the vehicle. Also disclosed is a method for providing light into an interior of a vehicle with the sunroof panel.